

CHILD NUTRITION AND FOOD DISTRIBUTION DIVISION MANAGEMENT BULLETIN

No.: 99-808

TO:	All Public and Private Schools Participating in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs County Superintendents of Schools Diocesan Superintendents of Schools	ISSUE DATE: April 1999
FROM:	Nutrition Standards Unit	
ATTENTION:	Food Service Directors	
SUBJECT:	Food-Safety Certification	

This management bulletin transmits information on Assembly Bill (AB) 1978 (Chapter 720, Statutes of 1998). This law requires that each food facility in California have at least one employee who has passed an approved food-safety examination on or before January 1, 2000. Multiple food facilities operated at the same site and under the same management, ownership, or control shall be deemed to be one food facility, even though the food facilities may operate under separate permits.

A copy of the chaptered bill is attached. Section 2, paragraph 113716, of the bill refers to the food-safety certification. The Department of Health Services, in consultation with various organizations and interested parties, is required to develop regulations regarding food-safety certification examinations. Certification must be renewed every three years by passing an approved food-safety certification examination. The following food-safety certification examinations are approved:

- A. The ServSafe Serving Safe Food
- B. The Chauncey Group International Food Protection
- C. The National Assessment Institute's Certified Professional Food Manager
- D. Professional Testing, Inc.
- E. Dietary Manager's Association
- F. Others accredited by the Department of Health Services

In February 1999, the Child Nutrition and Food Distribution Division organized a Food-Safety Task Force to provide recommendations and ideas on current food-safety topics. Task force representatives from the Department of Health Services, child nutrition programs, and food industries throughout California will address strategies to provide support to child nutrition program sponsors for implementation of the food-safety certification requirement. We will provide additional information when it becomes available.

If you have questions regarding this management bulletin, please contact Cindy Schneider, Child Nutrition Consultant, Nutrition Standards Unit, at (916) 322-1566, cschneid@cde.ca.gov, or (800) 952-5609.

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Attachment

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